



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20380-0001

MCO 7220.43B  
MROR-4  
2 May 91

MARINE CORPS ORDER 7220.43B

From: Commandant of the Marine Corps  
To: Distribution List

Subj: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FAP)

Ref: (a) 37 U.S.C. 209 (d)

Encl: (1) Financial Assistance Agreement, Platoon Leaders  
Class

1. Purpose. To set forth the requirements and regulations to administer the FAP.

2. Cancellation. MCO 7220.43A.

3. Information

a. The FAP was created in 1972 as a recruiting incentive in the form of a monthly stipend of \$100 per month to eligible candidates of the Platoon Leaders Class (PLC).

b. The FAP was made permanent by reference (a) in December 1980.

c. Eligible members may receive up to \$100 per month for up to 9 months of each academic year for a maximum of \$2,700 over 3 years. Annual payment will be prorated based on actual commencement and termination dates. If a candidate accepts financial assistance, an additional active duty obligation is accrued.

4. Eligibility. Applicants for enrollment in the FAP under the provisions of this Order must meet the following requirements.

a. General Qualifications

(1) Be a fully enrolled member of the PLC Program and have successfully completed one increment of training.

(2) Be physically qualified for retention in the PLC Program and, in all other respects, fully qualified for commissioning.

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b. Academic

(1) Be a full-time undergraduate student in a regionally accredited college or university. (A full-time student is defined as taking a course load of 12 semester/quarter hours.)

(2) Have an overall grade point average of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale (1.00 on a 3.00 scale or 4.00 on a 6.00 scale). Students are ineligible to apply if they have attained less than a 2.0 average in the semester prior to application. Students on academic or social probation are also ineligible to apply.

5. Application Procedures. Candidates can be enrolled in the FAP through two methods:

a. Applications from candidates while undergoing training.

(1) All member of the PLC Program will receive a briefing by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR) on financial assistance during their last week of training at Quantico.

(2) At the end of this briefing applicants may apply for financial assistance. Each applicant will be counseled on all aspects of the program and execute the Financial Assistance Agreement as contained in enclosure (1).

(3) Upon successful completion of training, applications will be processed by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR), and a letter of approval or disapproval will be issued to the candidate, via the appropriate district commanding officer. The appropriate mailing address will be provided by the candidate during the initial briefing outlined in paragraph 5a(1) above.

(4) All checks will be mailed to the appropriate district commanding officer for further dissemination to officer selection officers and candidates.

b. Applications from candidates in a nontraining status.

(1) Candidates who meet eligibility criteria as outlined in paragraph 4 of this Order may apply for FAP through their respective district until 31 January of the academic year.

(2) Applications will be processed by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR), with a letter of approval or disapproval issued to the candidate via the appropriate district commanding officer.

6. Financial Assistance Agreements. Each candidate will be thoroughly counseled on obligations incurred through acceptance of financial assistance utilizing the Financial Assistance Agreement in enclosure (1) emphasizing the following:

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a. Upon acceptance of financial assistance, members must agree to serve an additional 6 months of active duty, regardless of the amount of money accepted or number of academic years taken, in addition to the active duty obligation on their service agreements.

b. Should a member who received financial assistance voluntarily disenroll or drop from the program, or be dropped through failure to maintain program eligibility prior to commissioning, excluding those found not physically qualified, such member will be required to reimburse the U.S. Government for all monies received, unless the member volunteers to serve at least 2 years on active duty in an enlisted status. Checks or money orders should be drawn and made payable to the Treasurer of the United States. Such reimbursements should be clearly identified and include the academic year(s) or portion thereof represented by the repayment, and mailed or delivered to the Disbursing Officer, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, Virginia 22134-5001, with a reproduced copy of the check to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR).

c. Members may request to obtain a waiver from the requirement for reimbursement. All requests must be forwarded in writing, with appropriate endorsements, to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR).

d. If, during the academic year, a member enrolled in FAP becomes ineligible for continued payments (see paragraph 8c below), that member will not be reinstated in the program during the remainder of that year.

e. Enrollment in financial assistance must be renewed annually, and is subject to review and approval by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR).

#### 7. Program Administration

a. The Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR) is responsible for administration of the FAP and will act as final approval on all applications.

b. District commanding officers will be notified by separate correspondence of the number of funded allocations for the FAP for each fiscal year. There will be no quotas assigned to districts. Applications will be processed as received until the funded allocations are filled. No applications will be processed after 31 January for that academic year, unless specifically authorized by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR).

c. When an applicant is approved or disapproved for the FAP, the individual will be notified by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR) via the respective district.

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d. The Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR) will prepare and forward the first start pay order (NAVMC 11116) to the Disbursing Officer, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, Virginia 22134-5001. Each pay order will commence when the candidate actually starts the academic year and will end upon termination of participation in the program, completion of the academic year, graduation from college, or date of commissioning. The total payments for an academic year will not exceed \$900. A copy of the start pay order (NAVMC 11116) will be forwarded to each district for recordkeeping purposes.

e. A copy of this notification will also be retained by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR). When repayment is required, the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR) will forward a request for collection by DD Form 139, Payment Adjustment and Authorization Form, to the Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Finance Center (DAF/DM), via the Disbursing Officer, Marine Corps Combat Development Command.

8. Action of District Commanding Officers

a. Screen all applicants in accordance with eligibility criteria as established by this Order.

b. Forward all applications to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR).

c. Forward stop pay order, NAVMC 11116 or naval message to the Disbursing Officer, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, Virginia 22134-5001 (with a copy to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR)), on all members when they complete a normal academic year and on any member who is disenrolled, placed on academic, disciplinary, or social probation, who voluntarily dishonors, graduates, is commissioned, or otherwise becomes ineligible prior to the normal end of academic year. The exact date and reason for termination or suspension must be entered on the stop pay order or naval message.

d. Financial assistance checks should be distributed by the 10th of the month following the month of entitlement.

e. Establish recordkeeping procedures for accurate documentation of the number of applications approved/disapproved, receipt of monies and distribution to the field, and stop pay orders with supporting documentation.

f. Notify the Disbursing Officer, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, Virginia 22134-5001, immediately should a check for any eligible member fail to arrive at the district headquarters, or be lost in the distribution process. A copy of this notification will also be forwarded to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR).

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9. Actions of Disbursing Officer, Marine Corps Combat Development Command

a. Make all FAP payments as directed by Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR) and in accordance with current directives.

b. When a FAP repayment is received and processed, forward a copy of the completed NAVMC Form 2277 to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR).

c. By cover letter, forward to the Marine Corps Finance Center (DAF/DM), all DD Form 139's received from the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR), concerning the repayment of FAP payments, with the total amount of FAP payments received, minus any previous partial repayments.

d. By the 15th of the month, submit to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR) a list of those members who were terminated from the FAP during the preceding month.

e. By 30 September, submit to the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR) a FAP report to include the following information regarding members who have received FAP entitlements during the preceding academic year:

- (1) Name
- (2) Social security number
- (3) Officer selection officer code
- (4) Period payments were made
- (5) Amount paid during period.

10. Reserve Applicability. This Order is applicable to the Marine Corps Reserve.

  
**GARY BROWN**  
**By direction**

DISTRIBUTION: PCN 10209912800

Copy to: 7000110 (55)  
7000124 (15)  
8145005 (2)  
7000144/8145001 (1)

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT  
PLATOON LEADERS CLASS (Rev. 7-90)

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1. In connection with my current status as a member of the Platoon Leaders Class Program of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve and in conjunction with my current service agreement or any service agreement subsequently entered, I hereby acknowledge:

a. That this constitutes my request to be considered competitively for receipt of financial assistance in the form of a monthly subsistence allowance from the Marine Corps, as authorized by Title 37, United States Code, section 209 (d).

b. That such financial assistance if/when approved by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR) will commence at a time designated by the Marine Corps and may be paid for a maximum of 9 months per year for a maximum of 3 years while I am in a college undergraduate status.

c. That approval of my request to receive financial assistance and my continuance therein will be subject to the following provisions:

(1) My continued satisfactory performance and progress in the Basic Officer Candidate Program in which I am now enrolled and in strict accordance with the provisions thereof.

(2) Renewal of financial assistance to be annually subject to review and approval by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR).

d. That in consideration of and by reason of accepting financial assistance I incur the following extended active duty obligation to which I consent:

(1) If commissioned, that my first assignment to active duty will be to The Basic School.

(2) If commissioned, to serve on extended active duty for the minimum period stated in the service agreement in effect at the time of my commissioning plus 6 months regardless of the amount of money accepted or the number of academic years taken.

e. That the obligation described in paragraph 1d above, is in addition to any other obligation that may be incurred while on active duty and will not serve to decrease any other legal obligation.

2. Right to Disenroll from the Platoon Leaders Class Program. I understand that if I have received monies through the Financial Assistance Program and subsequently disenroll from the Platoon Leaders Class Program I in no way incur an active duty obligation with the United States Marine Corps.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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3. Reimbursement to the Government

a. I understand and agree that if I am disenrolled from the Platoon Leaders Class Program prior to commissioning, I will be required to reimburse the Government for all subsistence allowance that I received through the program accruing prior to the effective date of my disenrollment. I will not, however, be required to reimburse the Government where disenrollment is due to:

(1) A determination by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR) that I am "not physically qualified" where such physical status is not the result of an act or condition voluntarily induced or inflicted upon myself; or

(2) Any other action initiated by the Marine Corps and which is not based upon misconduct, inaptitude or defective attitudes on my part.

b. I understand and agree that if I fail to complete my active duty obligation under this contract, as a result of action not initiated by the Government, I shall reimburse the Government for all subsistence allowance which I receive from the Government through this program.

c. I understand that this requirement for reimbursement, set forth above, may be waived by the Commandant of the Marine Corps (MROR), when it is determined that such waiver is in the best interest of the Government.

4. Enlistment in the United States Marine Corps

a. I understand that if I am disenrolled from the Platoon Leaders Class Program and meet all requirements I may voluntarily enlist in the United States Marine Corps and serve on active duty for a period of 2 or more years.

b. I understand that if I voluntarily enlist in the Marine Corps the requirement to repay all monies received under the Financial Assistance Program will be voided.

5. I have read and completely understand the meaning and content of the above. No promises, either written or oral, have been made to me in connection with my application for financial assistance except as specified above. I acknowledge receipt of a copy of this document.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witnessing Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed Name, Grade, Social Security  
Number of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed Name, Social Security  
Number of Candidate

ENCLOSURE (1)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date